Response Under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure Examining Group\_

STK-071 CPA2 (CRP-137 CPA2)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner

David Romeo

Group Art Unit :

:

1647

Applicants :

David C. Rueger et al.

Application No.:

08/822,186

Confirmation No.: 6062

Filed

March 20, 1997

For

IMPROVED OSTEOGENIC DEVICES AND METHODS OF

USE THEREOF FOR REPAIR OF ENDOCHONDRAL BONE, OSTEOCHONDRAL AND CHONDRAL DEFECTS

> New York, New York June 4, 2004

Mail Stop AF Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

This is in reply to the March 4, 2004 Final Office Action in the above-identified application. Applicants are filing this reply before the expiration of the shortened statutory period for this reply -- June 4, 2004 -- and thus, no extension is due.

Appln No.: 08/822,186

Amendment dated June 4, 2004

In Response to Examiner's Office Action dated March 4, 2004

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.